

CICILLINE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CICILLINE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

AMERICA NEEDS A CHANGE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as American families continue to be under attack from radical Islam, it can be credited President Obama was correct on December 14, 2011, addressing troops at Fort Bragg: "We are leaving behind a sovereign, stable, and self-reliant Iraq . . . a moment of success."

Clearly, then-President George W. Bush's strategy of denying mass murderers safe havens to kill Americans anywhere was admitted successful. I am grateful my two oldest sons served in Iraq to protect American families.

President Obama's failure to achieve a status of forces agreement in Iraq and his failure to uphold his declared red line in Syria led to murderous advances of ISIL/Daesh, which he publicly dismissed as junior varsity.

I hope President Obama changes course for victory in the global war on terrorism, which began with the declarations of war in 1997 against America with a goal of death to America, death to Israel, and mass slaughter of Muslims who do not submit.

President Obama's legacy should be peace through strength, not weakness, as future attacks threaten American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

SUPPORTING THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, the Export-Import Bank is a critical resource for small- and medium-sized businesses in Rhode Island's First Congressional District and all across this country.

In fact, over the last 8 years, the Ex-Im Bank has provided more than \$20 million in insured shipments, guaranteed credit, or disbursed loans for companies in my district, enabling them to export products valued at nearly \$50 million.

The Ex-Im Bank provides financing that enables these companies to access foreign markets, compete in the global economy, and create good-paying jobs here in America. American jobs are supported by the Ex-Im Bank, 164,000 American jobs. It generated \$675 million for the taxpayers in 2014, and the default rate for the Ex-Im Bank was less than one-fifth of 1 percent, 0.175 percent.

Support for the reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank is bipartisan. 180 Democrats have signed a discharge petition to force a vote on reauthorizing the Ex-Im Bank before it expires on June 30, and many Republicans have publicly supported reauthorization.

I have had the opportunity to meet with companies in my district that rely on the Ex-Im Bank, companies like the Cooley Group in Pawtucket that designs, develops, and manufactures a diversified industry-leading portfolio of premier engineered coated fabrics used across an array of industrial, commercial, and military applications.

This issue is too important for the usual partisan politics that Washington has grown used to. We need to stand up for small- and medium-sized companies and reauthorize the Ex-Im Bank before the end of this month.

ALZHEIMER'S & BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month. Alzheimer's is the only top 10 cause of death in America that cannot be prevented or cured; however, we are making strides.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act, is a historic, nonpartisan bill that will help spur the development of cures and treatments more quickly to help patients with chronic or rare conditions.

I am an original cosponsor of a provision in H.R. 6 to create a national data collection system for neurological diseases. Better data will pave the path toward better treatments.

In April, I held a neurological disease roundtable in my district to engage with doctors and patients, including Ron Hall, a constituent and Alzheimer's patient. We discussed how to advance the development of treatments and cures for diseases like Alzheimer's.

Mr. Speaker, by working together, we can help Alzheimer's patients.

WESTERN NEW YORK'S PRIDE WEEK

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I joined the Pride Center of Western New York to celebrate the LGBTQ

community and kick off Buffalo Pride Week. Last week Niagara Falls Mayor Paul Dyser, Councilwoman Kristen Grandinetti, and the Rainbow City Coalition raised the rainbow flag for the first time at city hall in Niagara Falls.

Western New York's Pride Week comes at a particularly historic time. The Supreme Court is expected to rule soon on whether the Constitution guarantees same-sex couples the right to marry. I believe that it does. I was proud to join 211 of my colleagues in Congress in filing an amicus brief urging the Court to find such a right in its ruling.

Mr. Speaker, marriage equality is one of the important components of a larger effort to ensure that everyone has the same basic rights as each and every American. I congratulate the Pride Center of Western New York and the Rainbow City Coalition for their community efforts this week and advocacy for equality each and every day, and I hope next year Pride Week will celebrate a Supreme Court decision that honors the right of all Americans to marry the person they love.

HIGHLIGHTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TIMBERLAND SHOE COMPANY

(Mr. GUINTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the significant contributions of a New Hampshire-based business that employs almost 1,500 people and contributes approximately \$1.8 billion in economic revenue.

For nearly 40 years, Timberland Shoe Company has remained a staple in the New England region business community. From what started out as a small shoe company in Boston, Timberland has grown into a worldwide leader of outdoor footwear and apparel.

Headquartered in Exeter, New Hampshire, Timberland employs over 400 Granite Staters in a variety of departments such as marketing, operations, retail, administration, and more. The accomplishments of Timberland also transcend the workplace in ways where they have logged 8,300 hours of community service just in the last year.

Mr. Speaker, giving back to the community is an important aspect of successful business, and Timberland sets a great example for what all businesses should strive for. It was a privilege to visit Timberland's headquarters last month, and I look forward to their next 40 years in the great State of New Hampshire.

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Today we recognize the first National Gun Violence Awareness Day, and when you